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Date of Deposit: September 6, 2007

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Toru Kohda

Appln. No.: 10/551,629

Filed: September 30, 2005

For: PIPE JOINT AND SOCKET FOR PIPE
JOINT

Attorney Docket No: 10210/30

Examiner: Ripley, Jay R

Art Unit: 3679

Mail Stop IDS
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Information Disclosure Statement

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and more particularly in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), Applicant hereby cites the following reference(s):

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS		
DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY
JP S47-42013	12/19/1972	JPO
JP S51-69119	06/01/1975	JPO
JP S57-49030	10/27/1982	JPO
JP H03-042305	09/04/1991	JPO
JP P2000-266264A	09/26/2000	JPO

OTHER ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS
Translation of Japanese Office Action issued February 6, 2007 for Japanese patent application no. JP 042283

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Applicant is enclosing Form PTO-1449 (one sheet), along with a copy of each listed reference for which a copy is required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 The following is an explanation pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(i).

Japanese Utility Model Application Publication S47-42013;

Publication Date: December 19, 1972. (USPTO Form 1449, Line A1)

A pipe coupling is disclosed in which when a plug 2 is inserted into a socket 1, the plug 2 moves locking balls 4 radially outward so that the locking balls 4 are forcibly engages with a slanted surface 14a of an annular member 14 to move the annular member 14 rearward and finally fall into a groove 6 of the plug 2.

Japanese Utility Model Application Publication S51-69119;

Publication Date: June 1, 1975. (USPTO Form 1449, Line A2)

Figs. 2 and 3 shows a pipe coupling in which a sleeve 3 is allowed to move in a direction "a" to release locking balls 5 only when a notch 12 formed in the sleeve 3 is axially aligned with a pin 13 provided on the coupling body 1.

Japanese Utility Model Application Publication S57-49030;

Publication Date: October 27, 1982. (USPTO Form 1449, Line A3)

A pipe coupling is disclosed in which when a plug 10 is inserted into a socket 30, a retainer 46 is moved inwardly by the plug 10 and, then, the locking balls 38 fall into a groove 14 of the plug 10 so that the sleeve 42 released from the locking balls 38 is moved forward to lock the locking ball 38 in the groove.

Japanese Utility Model Publication H03-042305. (USPTO Form 1449, Line A4)

A pipe coupling is disclosed in which a sleeve 4 mounted on a socket 1 can be axially moved only when a notch 13 of the sleeve is axially aligned with a stopper 14 fixedly mounted on the socket 1.

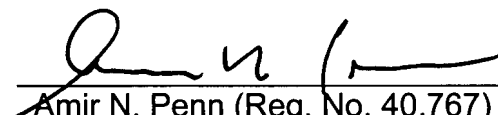
Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's consideration of the above reference(s) and entry thereof into the record of this application.

By submitting this Statement, Applicant is attempting to fully comply with the duty of candor and good faith mandated by 37 C.F.R. §1.56. As such, this Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any of the enclosed references, or other information referred to therein, constitutes "prior art" or is otherwise "material to patentability," as that phrase is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a).

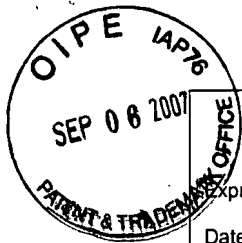
Applicant has calculated a processing fee in the amount of \$180.00 to be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant has enclosed a check covering this fee, or authorized charging the fee to a deposit account or credit card, as indicated in the Transmittal accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

September 6, 2007
Date



Amir N. Penn (Reg. No. 40,767)



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Examiner: Ripley, Jay R

Art Unit: 3679

Attorney Docket No: 10210/30

Mail Stop IDS

Commissioner for Patents

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Attached is/are:

- ☒ Transmittal Letter (1 pg) (in duplicate); Information Disclosure Statement (2 pgs); Form PTO 1449 (1 pg); Cited References (A1-A6); and
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard.

Fee calculation:

- ☐ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ An extension fee in an amount of \$ _____ for a _____-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).
- ☒ A petition or processing fee in an amount of \$ 180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
- ☐ An additional filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

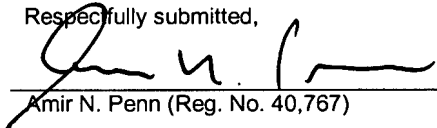
					Small Entity			Not a Small Entity	
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Add'l Fee	or	Rate	Add'l Fee
Total		Minus		0	x \$25=			x \$50=	
Indep.		Minus		0	X100=			x \$200=	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+\$180=			+\$360=	
					Total	\$		Total	\$

Fee payment:

- ☐ A check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.
- ☒ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 in the amount of \$ 180.00. A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.
- ☐ Payment by credit card in the amount of \$ _____ (Form PTO-2038 is attached).
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this paper (including any extension fee required to ensure that this paper is timely filed), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Respectfully submitted,

September 6, 2007
Date


Amir N. Penn (Reg. No. 40,767)

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FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. 10/551,629	CASE NO. 10210/30
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (use several sheets if necessary)	FILING DATE September 30, 2005	GROUP ART UNIT 3679
APPLICANT(S): Toru Kohda		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES OR NO
	A1	JP S47-42013	12/19/1972	JPO		No
	A2	JP S51-69119	06/01/1975	JPO		No
	A3	JP S57-49030	10/27/1982	JPO		No
	A4	JP H03-042305	09/04/1991	JPO		No
	A5	JP P2000-266264A	09/26/2000	JPO		Yes

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS (Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.)	
	A6	Translation of Japanese Office issued February 6, 2007 for Japanese patent application no. JP 042283.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.